

Subject: Paul Cunningham's Weekly Update
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Paul Cunningham's Weekly Update

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Lead Police Officer Zach Casper, whose work for east side neighbors is being highlighted this week.

Paul's Note



April 3, 2026

I want to start with a little shout out for some work that was done on our revamped newsletter. Much of the work was done by my part-time aide Mari Herreras, who I had brought into my office after a career at the University of Arizona Press and the Tucson Weekly.

You may have noticed a slight change in the logo too over the last couple of weeks. This was a suggestion from Arnie Bermudez at the Ward 3 office. Thank you Kevin for allowing him out once in a while.

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Captain Matt Brady, who leads the police division that includes most of Ward 2, wanted to highlight the work of one of our east side officers:

Lead Patrol Officer Zach Casper has proudly served with the Tucson Police Department since May 2019. Currently, he serves as the Lead Patrol Officer for ODE Squad 8, where he plays a key role in supporting daily operations and mentoring fellow officers.

In addition to his patrol leadership responsibilities, LPO Casper serves as a Field Training Officer. In this role, he is known for his thorough and professional approach to training new officers.

LPO Casper emphasizes the importance of a strong work ethic, discipline, attention to detail, and a deep sense of responsibility—qualities that are essential to fulfilling the mission of the Tucson Police Department. Through his mentorship, he helps shape the next generation of officers and ensures they are well prepared to serve the community.

LPO Casper has also demonstrated a strong commitment to professional development. He has enhanced his skill set by completing specialized training in Crisis Intervention Team, LIDAR, License Plate Recognition, and Hostage Response. Additionally, he has completed the instructor course for Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training, further strengthening his ability to train and prepare fellow officers for critical incidents.

LPO Casper's achievements exemplify the department's core values and highlight him as a role model among his peers. He has fully embraced the role of leader and has earned the respect of those around him through his dedication, professionalism, and willingness to help others improve every day.

His contributions have already made a lasting impact in the department, and we look forward to his continued success and leadership in the years ahead.

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Sun Tran is proposing route and service enhancements to Routes 4, 8, 9, 102X, 104X, 108X, Sun On Demand, along with a new Route 124X, and new Sun Tran bus stop sign design. These recommendations are part of the 2024 Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) study. The recommendations will need to be approved by Mayor and Council in order to take effect in August of 2026.

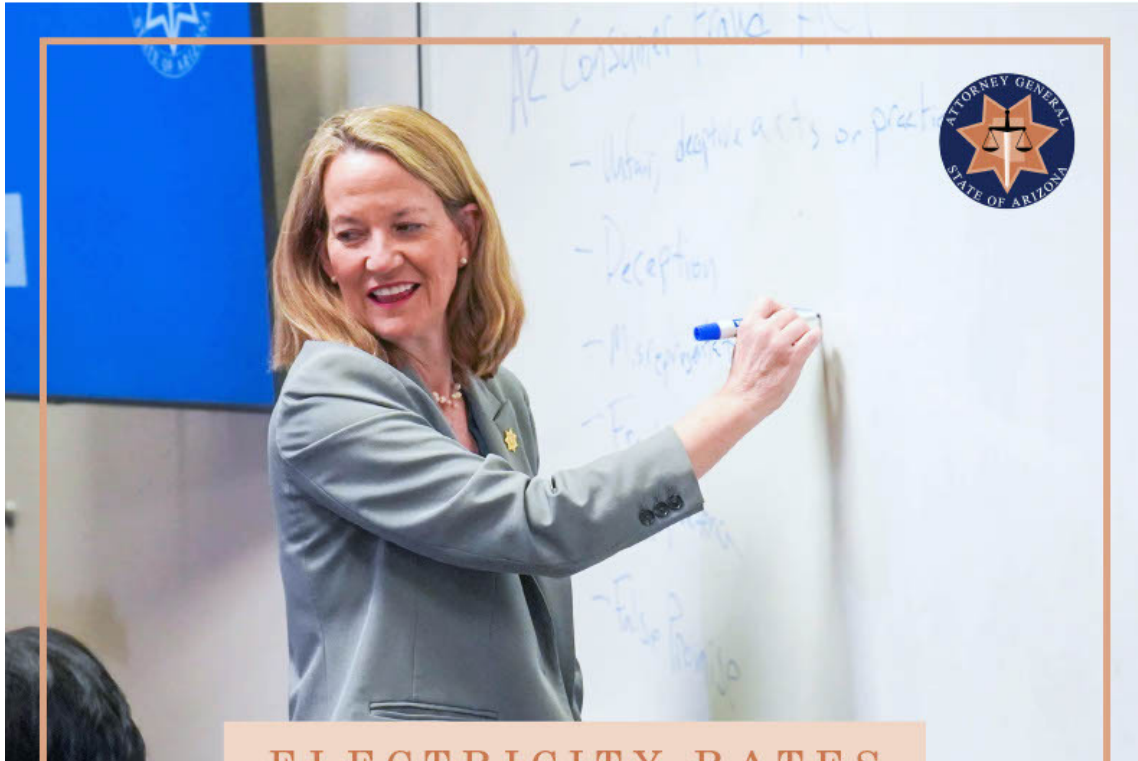
Riders and community members are encouraged to attend a one-hour session and provide feedback on the future of Sun Tran's transit system. One will be held here in Ward 2 at Udall Rec Center, **April 17**. Other meetings are listed below:

- **Monday, April 13** | Noon | University of Arizona Student Union- San Pedro Room
- **Tuesday, April 14** | 6 p.m. | Virtual (link available at [Suntran.com](https://www.suntran.com))
- **Wednesday, April 15** | 5 p.m. | El Rio Neighborhood Center: 1390 W. Speedway Blvd.
- **Thursday, April 16** | 2 p.m. | Woods Memorial Library: 3455 N. First Ave.
- **Friday, April 17** | Noon | Udall Center: 7200 E. Tanque Verde Rd.
- **Monday, April 20** | 5 p.m. | Nanini Library: 7300 N. Shannon Rd.
- **Tuesday, April 21** | Noon | Clements Center: 8155 E. Poinciana Dr.
- **Thursday, April 23** | 5 p.m. | Quincie Douglas Center: 1575 E. 36th St.
- **Friday, April 24** | Noon | Joel D. Valdez Main Library: 101 N. Stone Ave.
- **Monday, April 27** | Noon | Virtual (link available at [Suntran.com](https://www.suntran.com))

Accommodations are available upon request with at least one week's notice. To request accommodations, including American Sign Language (ASL), call (520) 792-9222 (TDD 520-628-1565) or email SunTranInfo@tucsonaz.gov

For more information or trip planning assistance, visit Suntran.com, call Customer Service at (520) 792-9222 (TDD 520-628-1565), email SunTranInfo@tucsonaz.gov or download the Transit App – the official Sun Tran app – to plan your trip and track bus arrivals in real-time. The app is available for free on the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

I wrote about the proposals to increase fees a few weeks ago. If you want to make your voice heard or just want to learn more, we are having public meetings on the subject. A full list is in the community news section below, but I wanted to let you know that there will be a public forum on Thursday, April 14 here in Ward 2 at the Udall Park Recreation center from 5:30 to 7 pm.



ELECTRICITY RATES

TOWN HALL

Join **Attorney General Kris Mayes** for a listening session where she would like to hear more about the cost of your residential electricity bills, trends in electricity rates in recent years, concerns about future electricity price increases, and any other impact these utility rate hikes could have on you and your community.

Tuesday, April 7th | 11 AM - 12:30 PM

Ward 2, Office of Council Member Paul Cunningham
7820 East Broadway Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85710

RSVP : www.azag.gov/office/outreach/events



Lovable pets like Darrell can be adopted at PACC.

PACC Pet of the Week

Located At: Pima Animal Care Center - Tucson

Description: My name is Darrell.

I am a neutered male, black and white Pit Bull Terrier.

Weight: I weigh approximately 52.50 lbs.

Age: The shelter staff think I am about 10 months old.

Bio: Darrell is a bundle of fun! He's practically still a puppy, so he needs to learn some manners, but he promises to give lots of kisses while learning.

Visit [PACC](#) to adopt Darrell today!



SAFE CITY

Connect

The City of Tucson invites residents to participate in Safe City Connect, a series of open forums designed to inform, connect, and foster two-way dialogue about the Safe City Action Plan to address homelessness, improve coordination for mental health and substance use disorders, and prevent violent crime.

Register at:

<https://www.tucsonaz.gov/Government/Office-of-the-City-Manager/Safe-City-Initiative>



Ward 1 & 5:

Date: Monday, April 6 (IN-PERSON)
Time: 5:00PM - 8:00PM
Location: El Pueblo Activity Center

Ward 3 & 6:

Date: Wednesday, April 8 (IN-PERSON)
Time: 5:00PM - 8:00PM
Location: Donna Liggins Center

Ward 2 & 4:

Date: Friday, April 10 (IN-PERSON)
Time: 9:00AM - 12:00PM
Location: Morris K Udall Center

Virtual:

Date: Monday, April 13 (VIRTUAL)
Time: 9:00AM - 12:00PM
Location: Zoom



Community News

Mayor and Council: The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 7**. There will be a study session with a regular meeting following at 5:30 pm. Meetings are held at City Hall, 255 W Alameda and can be watched live or archived at <https://www.youtube.com/@cityoftucson/live>.



Safe City: As part of the Safe City Initiative Action Plan, there will be a series of public forums. Each forum will include a brief presentation highlighting departmental work toward the Safe City priorities, followed by small-group discussions with City staff and partners. All relevant City departments and several critical partners will participate. Feedback will be collected at the close of each meeting. A forum will be held here in Ward 2 at the Udall Rec Center on **Friday, April 10 from 9 am to 12 pm**. To register, <https://arcg.is/18Kv9q2>

- **Monday, April 6, 5 – 8 pm**, El Pueblo Activity Center (101 W Irvington Rd Building 9)
- **Wednesday, April 8, 5 – 8 pm**, Donna Liggins Center (2160 N 6th Ave)

- **Friday, April 10, 9 am – 12 pm**, Morris K Udall Center (7200 E Tanque Verde Rd)

- **Monday, April 13, 9 am – 12 pm**, Virtual, *Zoom link provided upon registration*, <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/bu0FdRf1T1GSpjShj-mhEw>

Proposed Fee Changes: There is an ongoing series of meetings to discuss possible increases in Environmental Services, Planning and Development Services, Transportation and Mobility and Tucson Water fees. The schedule is below.

- **Thursday, April 9, 5:30 - 7 pm**, Donna Liggins Center, 2160 N. 6th Avenue
- **Saturday, April 11, 10 - 11:30 am**, Fred Archer Center, 1665 S. La Cholla Blvd.
- **Tuesday, April 14, 5:30 - 7 pm**, El Pueblo Center, 101 W. Irvington Road
- **Thursday, April 16, 5:30 - 7 pm**, Morris K. Udall Recreation Center, 7200 E. Tanque Verde Road
- **Saturday, April 18, 10 - 11:30 am**, Clements Center, 8155 E Poinciana Dr.
- **Monday, April 20, 5:30 - 7 pm**, Virtual Meeting, Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89925574155>

Electricity Rates Town Hall: Join Attorney General Kris Mayes for a listening session to hear more about the cost of your residential electricity bills, trends in electricity rates in recent years, concerns about future electricity price increases and other impacts these utility rates could have on you and your community. The town hall will be Tuesday, **April 7 from 11 am to 12:30 pm** at the Ward 2 office, 7820 E Broadway. You can RSVP at www.azag.gov/office/outreach/events

RTA Oversight: Pima County residents who are interested in serving the region are encouraged to apply for the Regional Transportation Authority's Citizens Accountability for Regional Transportation (CART) Committee.

Submit a letter of interest and why you would like to serve or why you would like to nominate an individual from your organization to serve. Include a brief resume, identify professional background, the number of years you have lived in Pima County, contact information and group name if representing a specific organization.

Mail letters to: RTA Board, Regional Transportation Authority, 1 E. Broadway Blvd., Suite 401, Tucson, AZ 85701. Mail electronic submissions to: info@RTAmobility.com

Submission deadline: Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. on April 30, 2026

Homing Project Open House: The Homing Project, a local nonprofit that is creating a village of transitional micro-shelters for unhoused people, welcomes visitors for a village tour before the village becomes home to residents (planned for June 2026).

Our next village open house is **Tuesday April 14th, 10 am - noon**. No need to RSVP, just show up. Please come with your hats and water - it's Tucson! We look forward to showing you our project. 2934 N Estrella Ave, Tucson, AZ. For more info: fatherq@comcast.net and www.thehomingproject.org

Sustainable Tucson: Renewing Tucson will be holding a summit at Pima Community College, Downtown Campus on **April 23-24**. The event will feature two days of building partnerships between community, government, and local industry to create

climate infrastructure through Tucson's economy. The goal is to leave with concrete projects (not plans!) that have community backing, government support, identified funding, and clear next steps. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.renewtucson.org/blank-3>

Middle Housing: Mayor and Council updated our zoning codes to expand household options. Our Planning and Development Services Department will be holding public training sessions to let citizens know about the updates that we did to accommodate the new "middle housing" policies.

Virtual Session: Thursday, April 9, 2026 Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m, via Zoom
Register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84408129021>

VITA Tax Preparation Help: The United Way's VITA program provides 100% free, high-quality tax preparation services to most households earning up to \$89,000 per year. The program has been around for over 20 years and is directly funded by the IRS, and all volunteers are required to complete training and become IRS-certified each year in order to prepare tax returns. In-person sites are located throughout Tucson, free do-it-yourself tax prep software, and fully virtual options for people to connect with volunteers. All of the information about VITA services are available on our website: www.unitedwaytucson.org/vita

Fort Lowell Events: The Fort Lowell Museum (2900 N Craycroft) will be hosting "Storytime for the Little Ones" every 3rd Saturday until April, 11 am to Noon. Please join them for activities for children ages 4 - 7. Discover the history of foods you eat every day, build a town in the desert, find out if bricks are *really* stronger than straw or sticks, and learn about the history of Tucson. For more information, visit www.fortlowellmuseum.org.

Mobile Meals: Do you know someone in your neighborhood who needs nutritious, low-cost meals delivered to their home by friendly volunteers? Call Mobile Meals at 520-622-1600. Mobile Meals serves all ages, including seniors and adults with disabilities. Anyone who has difficulty accessing the grocery store or cooking meals can sign up for Mobile Meals.

Mobile Meals of Southern Arizona is looking for compassionate volunteers to deliver nutritious meals to homebound individuals on Tucson's eastside.

With many of their regular volunteers taking a break from the heat, Mobile Meals urgently needs new drivers to ensure their clients receive the essential meals and friendly check-ins they depend on.

Visit the Mobile Meals of Southern Arizona website or contact Henry Gorton, Program Coordinator, at henry@mobilemealssoaz.org or (520) 622-2593 to learn more and sign up!

Step Up to Justice: Step Up to Justice has volunteer attorneys who hold free know-your-rights presentations for those who want to come. They offer several ongoing sessions, including The RENT Project (Renter Education for Neighborhoods and Tenants), The MAPP Project (Mobile Home Asset and Property Protection) and WORK (Workers' Outreach, Rights, and Knowledge). You can find out when the sessions are held and how to sign up at <https://www.stepuptojustice.org/>.

Team Up to Clean Up: The City of Tucson, along with community partners, is

Team Up to Clean Up: The City of Tucson, along with community partners, is organizing a citywide clean-up effort. Residents, families, students, community groups, and businesses are invited to join forces to clean and enhance our neighborhood. For more details, visit: [Team Up To Clean Up](#).



Click [here](#) to visit our Instagram.



Click [here](#) to visit our Facebook.

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